



The Named

Marianne Curley

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Ethan lives a secret life as a Guardian of the Named. Under the guidance of Arkarian, his mentor, and with the help of Isabel, his unlikely but highly capable apprentice, Ethan has become a valued member of this other-worldly corps. As the only defense against the evil Order of Chaos, the Named travel through time to prevent the Order from altering history and thereby gaining power in the present and the future.

As the threat from the Order intensifies, secrets of the past are revealed and villains and heroes are exposed. This gripping fantasy is set in modern times, but is infused with intrigue from the past, super-natural characters and surprising plot twists. Curley has written a winner through to the end.

The Named Details

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Author : Marianne Curley

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From Reader Review The Named for online ebook

siobhan Quinlan says

[i found ethans and isabels back stories to be so sad a

Allison says

The first half of this book was just like all the other YA paranormals that I've grown so tired of - teenagers in class, passing notes, grumpy teachers, girl & boy working together, one with a crush on the other. Depressing home lives, parent and sibling issues, blah blah. Not a lot actually happens at first, but I could see where it was going and was quickly falling into eye-rolling mode, fighting boredom and frustration. How many times have I seen these clichés play out by now?

When I picked this up, I really thought it would be more about time travel adventures. Although the Named are guardians of the timeline, this story is more about the guardians in the present than what they do when they travel to the past. The teenagers are in training (very vaguely described aside from repeated mention of parent and sibling problems caused by the two spending time together), and the focus is not enough on their lives as guardians, at least at first. Irritated at being sucked into another one of these sorts of books, I forced myself onward, prepared to skim if necessary to finish this thing.

Then something changed. I'm not sure exactly when I stopped having to force myself to read. Probably about the time high school dropped out of it and we actually got past the training and into the missions (yes, this does happen!). Then there were a couple small events that challenged my sense of knowing exactly where it was going, and then stuff started happening and I got interested and then - then the end. Just as it started to get up to speed, it ended, and now I'm going to have to read the next one. I sincerely hope I don't have to wait through another half book of the daily lives of teenagers before things get interesting again. Please no more high school. If we can stick to the business of the Named, I'll be happy.

Cri (PaperbacksandPizza) says

This review is going to be only in English, sorry guys, but The Named wasn't translated in Italian and I don't think it could ever be- since it was published in 2002- (this is an excuse to start reading books in English, what are you waiting for, then?).

Questa recensione sarà soltanto in inglese, mi dispiace ragazzi, ma The Named non è stato tradotto in italiano e non credo che mai lo sarà – dato che è stato pubblicato nel 2002- (questa è una scusa per iniziare a leggere i libri in inglese, perciò cosa state aspettando?).

First of all, I have to say I am not a native english speaker so, please, I prefer to not be attacked, if I made any mistakes. Instead of do that, it would be nice if you corrected me, thank you :)

+ Firstly, can we talk about how **this book has NO CLICHES** at all? ~~Maybe it has a few, but they are so well done I don't even count them.~~ For instance, **the way time travel is in The Named is completely different from every book I've ever read.** Let me explain. Ethan, which is the main character, is The Named: he is gifted and his duty is to travel in the past to not let The Guard change the past and the future too. The Guard is the opposite of Ethan's group, The Order. Members of The Order fight against The Guard, created by The Goodness who wants to rule the world by destroying it with diseases and wars. Diseases and wars are mostly from altering the past, that's why The Order has to travel in time and verify everything is going to be like it has to.

+ Marianne Curley surprised me and not just because I enjoyed her first book in this trilogy, **she literally left me speechless with her amazing and great written plot twists that kept me turning page by page.** The less things you expect are the ones that occur in this novel. If Ethan and Isabel are gifted, then Marianne Curley is as well: *writing plot twists the way she does isn't for all.*

+ Now we pass at the aspect I loved the most: history settings and clothes. **If you love history as much as I do,** (which is *a lot*, folks) **then you'll probably love The Named.** The way members of The Order travel in time is interesting, they go to sleep and wake up in Citadel and from that they get their new identities, clothes and all the knowledge they need to. Reading Isabel and Ethan's missions was *always captivating*, for a history geek like me.

+ About characters, Ethan reminded me of Percy Jackson with his sass, humor and the fact they are both impulsive. Isabel, Ethan's Apprentice, is a strong girl who surprised me every time and, this event is *so rare*, but I liked her. Usually, I hate female characters because I expect so much from them, especially if the book is written by a woman. Isabel was an exception, though. Special honour goes to Arkarian, *the Truthmaster* who is actually way older than he seems, with blue hair and violet eyes. He is wise and always helped Isabel and Ethan.

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Jessica (Goldenfurpro) says

Meet Bob

Now we can tell that Bob is going to work but what is his job?

He could be a businessman, a lawyer, a clown, an assassin, a secret agent, a doctor, or that might not even be his briefcase at all!

What about his personality?

He looks happy in this picture but what if one of his friends just died and he's trying to look happy since that's what his friend wants?

What if he has an evil plan inside that head of his?

The thing is...

We don't know Bob.

That's what I felt like when I read this book.

I knew all of the character's names and maybe what they did but they didn't have any personality. They lacked the pizzazz I need in characters.

I absolutely love time travel but I had a hard time getting through this book since they didn't feel *alive*.

I probably knew them as much as Bob.

Tawny says

I can not put this series down. It is so interesting. The characters are real and I love the story. I am always on the edge of my seat waiting to see what happens next. I like that you get to see into two characters' minds. It is such a great book. Easy to understand and fun to figure out.

EME says

No sabía que esperar de este libro ya que me lo compré porque Javier Ruescas lo recomendó en un video, y al verlo en una tienda de segunda mano no me lo pensé demasiado. Como el video lo había visto hace tiempo y el libro me lo compré hace algo de tiempo también no recordaba bien de que iba el libro, solo que me llamaba la atención. Fue una grata sorpresa descubrir que iba sobre viajes en el tiempo y profecías ya que ambas cosas me gustan mucho. Además, la profecía me recordó en ciertas cosas a la Profecía del Gris de Gregor the Overlander, por lo que ganó muchos puntos la historia. La verdad es que es un libro bastante completo, ya que hay desde amor, traición, acción, monstruos, dioses, reyes y de todo lo que uno pueda imaginarse. Con muchas ganas de continuar con la trilogía.

snowplum says

This book is the literary equivalent of Chinese food. You really enjoy it sometimes, you share it with friends who enjoy it too, and an hour later you forget it because it didn't really *satisfy* you in some fundamental way.

The better attributes of the book are the greater-than-average number of ideas included in the plot and the fantasy elements. Interesting choices of destinations in time and historical figures to meet (not the obvious choices) set the book apart right away. Then the description of the catacombs or chambers between worlds with their magic puzzles and traps takes the book to a cool fantasy place for a while.

The weakest attribute of the book is the shifting perspective. It feels VERY short attention span to go back and forth between Ethan and Isabelle so often. This relates to the other major problem, which is anything that pertains to a character other than Ethan or Isabelle. Because Curley already has her hands full trying to flesh out two characters in a first-person way (which requires a lot more dextrous writing than having multiple main characters in third person omniscient), she just has nothing left to give the characters who aren't given a first-person voice. Arkarian, Matt, and Rochelle are all little more than sketches, which is disappointing when you find out that they are going to be much more important in the later books.

I also don't think Curley does very well at giving Ethan and Isabelle distinct voices -- there's virtually nothing about the way they speak that differentiates gender, intelligence, priorities, interests, influences...

and Curley misses almost any opportunity to have them think/see/notice different things about the secondary characters, which might differentiate Ethan and Isabelle better and give you more insight into the people they know. Also gotta say, Ethan is pretty smooth around the edges for a teenage boy, which starts to seem implausible the more seriously you try to take the book.

So, all in all, The Named is a lot like Chinese food among friends. You get to sample a lot of different things, some of which are pretty tasty and some of which are just variety for variety's sake. You have a nice, chill time. And soon after you put it away, you're hungry again.

Sandra Pulliam says

Once again Marianne Curley had me from hello! This book starts out with a bang and ends pretty much the same way! I was glued to the book and didn't want to put it down.

The main character Ethan is my favorite. Isabelle runs a close second but Ethan is who stole my heart. I love the time travel! Going back in time to make sure all goes as planned. It's a great and different concept that was a nice break from vampires, werewolves and all other supernatural reads.

I already have "The Dark" so I'm looking forward to reading more!

Allison A says

This book was awesome! It involved time travel, drama, and mystery. I really enjoy books that aren't predictable. I just pulled this off the shelf not expecting much, and would really enjoy reading the others. It kept me going and I read it in three days.

Booker says

This book was fantastic! "The Named" is a great time travel book: exciting, magical, historical, and had a bit of romance. It was a little confusing in places, but overall it was a great page turner that will have you scrambling for the rest of the trilogy.

Nilin Börekçi says

4,5 tan 5 puan,

Karakterlerin ya?lar? ilk sorun bence. ?kincisi ise de, ki bu benden kaynaklan?yor, -kitab? daha önce okudu?um için- baz? yerlerde s?k?lmam ve ne olaca??n? anlamamd?. Buna ra?men, kitap baz? k?s?mlarda beni cidden ?a??rtt?, hayrete dü?ürdü.

Bu seriyi cidden çok seviyorum. Neden bu kadar az ki?i okumu? veya neden bu kadar az biliniyor, hiçbir fikrim yok fakar, fantastik bir hikaye okumak istiyorsan?z e?er, An?lan dan ba?laman?z? kesinlikle öneririm.

Faye says

This book is one of the best books you'll ever read. I just finished the second one, The Dark, and it was even better than the first--if that's possible. Anyway, I am off to read the third and I highly recommend this to everyone, especially fans of sci-fi, mystery, fiction and fantasy.

Arya says

*What if you could protect the **Future**...by traveling into the **Past***

The Named- where the Gaurdians of Time travel into history to protect life as we know from the Goddess of Chaos, a rampaging Immortal intent on taking over the world.

Ethan- a member of "The Named", part of a prophecy made years ago fortelling the end of the battle that rages between Lorian and the Goddess, and the main character of the book. He has been promoted to "Trainer" and his apprentice is - his ex-best friend' sister- which doesn't set well with Matt (the ex-friend) who is overprotective as well as the jumping-to-conclusion's type. With his fragile peace with Matt verging on all out war, and his standing with the Tribunal in jeopardy this is an interesting time to spend with him.

Isabel- Matt's sister and Ethan's apprentice she is a huge part of this story. With her gift- healing- revealing itself the Guardians recrute her and Ethan has only two weeks to get her ready for her first mission- to save King Richard the II of England.

In this book of ambiguity and beautiful ideas. Everything is not what it seems. Mysterious and mesmeric this is a very, very enjoyable read. Fantasy and reality intwine in this lovely book where worlds and deminsions collide.

Oda Renate says

This time rereading it I noticed this book is really funny which I havent thought about before.

Love the different pov`s chapters in this book.

If you havent read this trilogy yet you really should. It has multiple povs, timetravelling,and lots of twist.

Love stories that arent forced.

Rinn says

I got this from the library when I was about 11 or 12, and took it on holiday with me. I remember devouring it and wanting to go home from my holiday, purely so I could read the next one. I still love the series now, and re-read them every so often. They're a quick and easy read, and the story is gripping. If you're a fan of history, the books are especially appealing. I also liked that one of the main characters shared my name ;)

Gemma ? Books_McCoy says

happy sigh There's a reason I've read this series so many times. Ethan will forever be one of my favourite characters of all time. This world will always be one of my favourites of all time. It has been so awesome to go back and relive this!! On to book 2! ???

Victoria says

I was really excited about this book...it got such a high rating and seemed like such a fantastic premise. Maybe that's why it seemed to fall short.

Ethan is a Guardian of Time; he travels to the past in order to keep evil denizens from the Order of Chaos from changing it, thus affecting the future. Of course Ethan's only a teenager, but he's already very good at what he does. So the Guard decides to test him by giving him the willful Isabel as his new apprentice. But Isabel's initiation brings a whole host of problems to the surface, most of them revolving around an ancient prophecy.

It sounds so wonderful, and *so* much could have been done with such a concept. Which is why it comes so close to painful to watch the story enacted quite a bit below its potential.

In fact, I think my irritation with this novel stems from the wasted potential. It was enjoyable on some levels, but all I could think was how much better it could have been. Ethan and Isabel have all the seeds of great characters, as do others they interact with; Ethan's wise and ever-youthful mentor Arkarian probably comes closest to being a truly relatable person. But again, they never come to life; they remain flat and stiffly-written, shifting between easy teenage narration and speech too stilted to ever really come out of a mouth. I think this is partly due to the first person narration, something that most authors are either good at...or aren't. Curley unfortunately is not. The emotions are also only vaguely felt.

The story itself also grazes shallowly along the surface of its awesome premise. Plot bumps detract from the realism; it's too obvious how the author hand-waves the various parts of the Guard with magic, illusions, or mysterious powers. It's also a tad misleading; I was expecting the bulk of the story to involve the time traveling missions, but by the end more focus is put on old feuds with evil Chaos denizens than on anything historical. And the few missions sprinkled in do little to actually expose the reader to the time period, barreling through the process and tossing in some random historical figures like King Richard II and Abigail Adams.

The premise saves the story, giving it some decent moments and a pretty good climax and conclusion. I'm not sure I'll be reading the rest of the trilogy right away; it didn't reel me in as I'd hoped it would.

Elica says

Very adventurous, a definite page turner.

It had me wanting more after each chapter, i literally could not put this book down.

The characters are a fine set all with their own personality.

My only complaint is that they were not defined much, as in, i had no idea how they looked like. At times Curley would describe a few of their qualities, but not enough to get a strong image.

If anything, all i got a good image of was when they turned into someone else. Arkarian is my favorite character along with the intelligent Isabel.

I'm glad this book is a series.

Recommended!

Man twists and turns, and at times it seems predictable, but goes back to being "What the?"

thankfully it isn't another book about werewolves and vampires, in fact, hardly any love is in this book!

Mostly action and world traveling.

It's a very good read, and i do hope a very good series.

Maureen says

Reread August 2 to 7, 2015 for #fivefaves

Maybe more of a 3.5/5 stars. NOT SURE.

Well I still really liked this book, but I'm not sure if I can count it in one of my faves anymore. I still really love the story and overall concept - they are so unique and wonderful that it's hard NOT to love them. However the writing is so SO bad. It's something I definitely wouldn't have noticed as much years ago, but it's really bad. The character development is definitely lacking as well, and the characters being SO YOUNG (aka not 18) kinda makes things like romances a little icky. SO I STILL LIKED IT but I now have more issues with it. At least now I recognize them!

Lonewolf says

So I finished the book and I certainly enjoyed the time that I was reading it, but I feel that this only deserves 3 stars because anything higher should be reserved for particularly good work. This was candy.

But the candy tasted a little bitter because with such an intriguing concept, the execution was a bit of a disappointment. There could have been so many interesting themes explored with the idea of how tightly interwoven events in space-time are. But it often seemed like the timetravel aspect was just a vessel used to chug the story along to the end. And this wouldn't be such a problem if it felt like that end had any sort of purpose at all. But this is a story that exists just to exist.

On the positive side I will say that I liked the central characters Isabel, Ethan, and Arkarian which is a plus. And I actually liked the shifting of perspectives because I enjoyed hearing from both Isabel and Ethan.

In the end though, there's just so much more that could have been done with the plot and characters which is why I'm so frustrated that it only ended up being a fun read.
